

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-2 and 5-22 remain in this application. Claims 3 and 4 have been canceled without prejudice. Claim 1 has been amended to recite limitations of claims 3 and 4. Claims 5-9 have been amended to change dependency from cancelled claims. New claims 16-22 find support throughout the specification and from original claims 5-7. Accordingly, no issues of new matter are believed to be raised by the above amendments to the claims.

Rejections Under 35 USC 102

I

Claims 1-3 and 15 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Dake et al (US 2003/0026872). See Pages 2 of the Office Action. According to the Office Action, “Dake discloses a composition comprising active agent, sweetening agent, and one or more flavoring agents suitable for reconstituting with a liquid.” See page 2 of the Office Action. As discussed above, Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite “wherein said particles comprise flaked films that are suspended in the liquid matrix. (emphasis added)” Drake does not disclose, nor suggest, such a liquid pharmaceutical dosage form. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

II

Claims 1-3 and 15 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Buxton et al (US 6428808). See Pages 2-3 of the Office Action. According to the Office Action, “Buxton discloses a liquid oral dosage form comprising one or more flavoring vehicles and a medicament.” See page 2 of the Office Action. As discussed above, Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite “wherein said particles comprise flaked films that are suspended in the liquid matrix. (emphasis added)” Buxton does not disclose, nor suggest, such a liquid pharmaceutical dosage form. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 USC 103

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Buxton et al. in view of Mathiowitz et al (US 4861627) or Porzio et al. (WO 97/13416). See Pages 3-4 of the Office Action. As discussed above, Buxton does not disclose, nor suggest, the liquid pharmaceutical dosage form of claim 1, from which the remaining pending claims depend. Similarly Mathiowitz and Porzio also fail to disclose a liquid pharmaceutical dosage form comprising a liquid matrix and a plurality of particles comprising a second flavoring agent having a second flavor “wherein said particles comprise flaked films that are suspended in the liquid matrix. (emphasis added).”

As discussed on page 11 and Example 2 of the specification, Applicants unexpectedly found that by using flaked film flavorants, such flavorants persisted in the oral cavity after swallowing such liquid pharmaceutical dosage. Specifically, as set forth in Example 2, (i) the customized dosage forms containing flaked films significantly reduced the aftertaste of Children’s Tylenol®, (ii) the customized Children’s Tylenol® provided a significantly longer lasting flavor experience, (iii) the children were able to distinguish two sequentially-distinct flavors in the customized Children’s Tylenol®, and (iv) the flaked films enhanced the overall palatability of Children’s Tylenol® suspension, leading to a more likeable taste.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that this rejection under 35 USC 103(a) be withdrawn.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

By:____/William E. McGowan/_____
William E. McGowan
Reg. No. 39,301

Johnson & Johnson
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza
New Brunswick, NJ 08933-7003
(732) 524-2197